

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE

4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED

2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE

5. COUNTY  
Whatcom  
6. LAA  
#1  
7. STATE  
Washington

3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION:

I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.  
☐ I DO want to withdraw the setting of tied votes with another nominee.  
☐ I DO NOT want to withdraw the setting of tied votes with another nominee.

3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE

3B. DATE

8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR

8B. DATE

☐ Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.

(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).

9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES. The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY

☐ Hispanic or Latino  
☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)  
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native  
☐ Asian  
☐ Black or African-American  
☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  
☐ White

GENDER  
☐ Male  
☐ Female

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

Complete the form as follows:

ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:

- A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
- B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
- C. Willing to serve if elected.

ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.

ITEM 3 The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the setting of tied votes.

ITEMS 3A & 3B The nominee must sign and date.

ITEMS 8A & 8B The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)

ITEM 9 Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2011.

NOTE:

The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) - as amended. The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and non-governmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provision of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE



United States  
Department  
of Agriculture

Farm and Foreign  
Agricultural Services

Whatcom County FSA Office  
6935 Hannegan Rd.  
Lynden, WA 98264-9620

May 2011

Dear Producer:

You are encouraged to nominate yourself or someone else to represent your interests on the Farm Service Agency County Committee. FSA county committees are a unique arrangement that allow local guidance for federal farm programs. These committees are a direct link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Committee members are a critical component of ensuring FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers. Committee members are compensated for their time and travel related to county committee duties.

The duties of county FSA committee members include:

- Participating in county meetings and hearing producer appeals at the local county level;
- Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of FSA programs;
- Monitoring changes in farm programs and assisting with delivery of FSA farm programs at the local level;
- Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee.

This year, nominations are for a committee member to represent producers in Whatcom County Local Administrative Area (LAA) #1. Please feel free to call the County Office for a more detailed description or a copy of the LAA map.

LAA #1 is bounded to the north by the Canadian border, to the west by the Pacific Ocean, to the south by the Whatcom-Skagit County Line, and to the east by Guide Meridian Road and I-5 south of Guide Meridian Road junction proceeding southward to the intersection of the Whatcom-Skagit County Line.

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility requirements described below:

- Actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch;
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election. (Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch; not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts farming operations on an entire farm; participates in any FSA program);
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate.

The nomination form FSA-669A allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate.

Each form submitted must be limited to one nominee and signed and dated by the nominee (Item 3A) to indicate a willingness to have their name placed on the ballot and agree to serve if elected. Item 8A reflects the nominator's signature and date. For detailed instructions on completing the nomination form or requesting a form, please contact your local county FSA office, or refer to the website <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/na>.

The deadline for nominations is August 1, 2011. Completed nomination forms are to be submitted to the county FSA address listed at the top of this letter and should be returned, delivered, or postmarked no later than August 1, 2011.

Sincerely,  
/s/ David Unruh  
County Executive Director

Whatcom County FSA Office  
6975 Hannegan Road  
Lynden, WA 98264



Presorted  
Standard  
US Postage Paid  
Spokane, WA  
Permit # 939



**Whatcom County FSA**

6975 Hannegan Road  
Lynden, WA 98264-9019  
Phone: 360-354-5658  
Fax: 360-354-4678

**Office Hours**

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

**County Committee**

Debbie Smit, Chair  
Dan Noteboom, V-Chair  
Theresa Sygitowicz, Member  
Satpaul Neger, Advisor

**Office Staff**

David A Unruh, CED  
[david.unruh@wa.usda.gov](mailto:david.unruh@wa.usda.gov)

Darcy Maldonado, PT  
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Betty Snell, PT  
[betty.snell@wa.usda.gov](mailto:betty.snell@wa.usda.gov)

**Farm Loan Staff**

Mark Turner, FLM  
[mark.turner@wa.usda.gov](mailto:mark.turner@wa.usda.gov)

Lynn Alderson, FLO  
[Lynn.alderon@wa.usda.gov](mailto:Lynn.alderon@wa.usda.gov)

Marlene Garber, PT  
[Marlene.garber@wa.usda.gov](mailto:Marlene.garber@wa.usda.gov)

**National USDA Website**  
<http://www.usda.gov>  
**National FSA Website**  
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov>  
**State FSA Website**  
<http://www.usda.gov/wa>

**Important Dates to Remember**

**May 30, July 4, and September 5**  
Office Closure for Holidays

**June 1** DCP/ACRE signup ends

**June 30** Crop reporting deadline

**July 29** SURE Signup ends



**Disaster Reporting is Important**

To be eligible for crop loss assistance, producers who purchased Noninsured Assistance Program (NAP) coverage are required to **report weather related crop damage by the EARLIER of the following: 1)** within 15 calendar days after the disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent for yield losses; **2)** 15 calendar days after the normal harvest date.

Additionally, if the intention is to not harvest the crop, the County FSA office must be contacted so that a loss adjuster can verify the crop damage prior to its abandonment or destruction. Failure to meet these requirements can compromise NAP coverage, or make claims ineligible for assistance. The loss must be reported on CCC-576 Notice of Loss form.

**2011 ACRE/DCP Deadline**

The deadline to enroll in both the Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE) and the Direct and Counter-cyclical Programs (DCP) is **June 1, 2011**. If you have not received your DCP contract in the mail, please call today for an appointment to sign up.

**Acreage Reporting Deadline**

If you participate in an FSA program you are required to report your crop acreage and land use to maintain eligibility for the DCP, CREP, NAP, SURE, and most livestock disaster programs. **June 30, 2011**, is the final date to timely certify. Beyond that date, fees will be assessed for late-filed acreage reporting.

The county office is pre-filing appointment cards with the date and time we have scheduled for you. These appointment cards will be mailed out to those who filed last year, about two weeks prior to your scheduled appointment time. However, if you finish planting prior to your notification of your appointment time, you are encouraged to call for an earlier appointment date. Your cooperation will assist us in serving you timelier.

**CREP**

Good stewardship has its rewards. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is a voluntary program that pays landowners rent, a signing bonus and all eligible costs for planting buffers along creeks, ditches, and wetlands.

**2009 SURE Sign up Deadline**

The deadline for producers to submit applications for 2009 crop year Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) is **July 29, 2011**. The application and all required documentation must be on file and signed by close of business on that day. A fact sheet with more detailed information is available on the FSA website [www.fsa.usda.gov/wa](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa). For more information, contact this office.

**Farm Changes and Reconstitutions**

Any changes in your farm's physical makeup, such as adding or removing land, ownership changes may impact your acreage base. Farm reconstitutions must be requested by **August 1** to be effective for the 2011 program year. Your farm must comply with program requirements as the operation is currently structured, including required signatures and acreage reporting.

**MILC**

October 1 starts the 2012 year for the MILC program. Producers need to insure that they select the correct start month for the year. Those who selected October as the start month will need to notify us by September 14 if they want to change to a later month. Production will not count until there is a payment month.

**BUDGET CUTS:** Due to budget cuts, this may be the last county newsletter for the fiscal year, ending September 30, 2011. Producers are encouraged to contact this office for program deadlines and other information.